

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Tobi Gummer, Support Specialist, Division of School Traffic
Safety/Emergency Planning

Re: Severe Weather Preparedness Week

Date: February 25, 2008

Severe Weather Preparedness Week

Severe Weather Preparedness Week	Drill Exercise	Time
March 2- 8, 2008	Wednesday, March 5, 2008	Between : 10:30 and 11 a.m. E.S.T. 7 and 7:30 p.m. E.S.T.

To focus attention upon the rapidly approaching tornado and severe weather season, the National Weather Service in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana State Police, Indiana State Emergency Management Agency and various other agencies announces March 2 through 8, 2008 as Severe Weather Awareness Week.

The statewide tornado drill will be on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. The exact exercise time is not released to allow for effective testing of response times. The message will be distributed through normal channels, including the Emergency Alert System, the National Warning System Hotline, the Indiana NOAA Weather Wire Service and the NOAA Weather Radio.

The National Weather Service has established an evening drill exercise between 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. We ask that teachers encourage students to practice appropriate severe weather procedures at home with their families. We also encourage schools to participate in the evening exercise during any after school events.

IMPORTANT – Schools are now required to conduct 1 man-made occurrence drill a semester or trimester.

Only schools involved in the accreditation process for 2007-08 are required to complete the DOE-TN3 Emergency Drill Date Report Form. The online report can be found on the department's web page, www.doe.state.in.us. You may begin reporting data on March 5, 2008, but no later than April 30, 2008.

For all other schools, please note that State Board of Education rules require that a permanent record of all drills must be maintained by the building principal or designee.

The Division's web page, www.doe.state.in.us/safety, has available other weather links, weather radar, tornado safety rules, and education sites. You may also access the information from the National Weather Service web page at www.noaa.gov/ind

For further assistance, please contact me at 317/232-0890 or e-mail tgummer@doe.in.gov.